CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A fifth wheel hitch assembly, comprising:

a head assembly;

a jaw assembly carried on said head assembly, said jaw assembly including a jaw body displaceable between an open position and a closed position;

a control handle connected to said jaw body, said control handle including a first lockable device;

a locking bracket attached to said head assembly, said locking bracket including a second lockable device lockable to said first locking device;

a king pin indicator connected to said head assembly, wherein said king pin indicator prevents said first and second lockable devices from being locked together when a king pin is not fully and properly seated in the head and jaw assemblies.

2. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 1 further comprising a lock for engaging both said first and second lockable.

3. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 2, wherein said king pin indicator includes an elongated body having a king pin engaging end, a lock engaging end and an intermediate pivot point.

4. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 3, further including a spring connected between said king pin indicator and said head assembly for biasing said king

pin indicator into a home position, said king pin indicator prevents said first and second lockable devices from being locked when in said home position.

5. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 4, wherein said intermediate pivot point includes an aperture in said elongated body and a first pivot pin for pivotally connecting said king pin indicator to said head assembly.

6. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 5, wherein said head assembly includes a skid plate and a mounting platform.

7. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 6, further including a second pivot pin, said second pivot pin pivotally connecting said jaw body to said mounting platform.

8. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 7, wherein said first pivot pin pivotally connects said king pin indicator to said mounting platform.

9. (cancelled)

10. (cancelled)

11. (cancelled)

12. (cancelled)

13. (currently amended) A fifth wheel hitch assembly for mounting to a towing vehicle and receiving a king pin of a trailer, comprising:

a base assembly;

a head assembly carried on said base assembly, said head assembly including a first lockable device;

a jaw assembly carried on said head assembly, said jaw assembly including a second lockable device lockable to said first lockable device;

a king pin indicator displaceable between a home position in which said king pin indicator prevents said first and second lockable devices from being locked together and a king pin sensing position in which said first and second lockable devices may be locked together to lock said jaw body in a closed position.

14. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 13, wherein said head assembly includes a locking bracket and said locking bracket includes said first locking device.

15. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 14, wherein said jaw assembly includes a control handle connected to said jaw body and said control handle includes said second locking device.

16. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 15, wherein said first locking device includes a first aperture and said second locking device includes a second

aperture, said first and second apertures capable of being locked when locking said jaw body in said closed position.

17. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 16, wherein said king pin indicator includes an elongated body having a king pin engaging end, a lock engaging end and an intermediate pivot point.

18. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 17, further including a spring connected between said king pin indicator and said head assembly for biasing said king pin indicator into said home position, said king pin indicator prevents said first and second lockable devices from being locked when in said home position.

19. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 18, wherein said pivot point includes an aperture in said elongated body and a first pivot pin for pivotally connecting said king pin indicator to said head assembly.

20. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 19, wherein said lock engaging end of said king pin indicator at least partially blocks said first and second apertures when said king pin indicator is in said home position.

21. (original) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 13, further including a mounting assembly that carries said base assembly.

22. (currently amended) A method of indicating proper seating of a king pin in a head assembly having a first lockable device and a jaw assembly having a second lockable device of a fifth wheel hitch assembly, comprising:

detecting if the king pin is seated in said head and jaw assemblies; and

preventing locking of the jaw assembly in a closed or towing position if seating of the king pin is not detected by preventing said first and second lockable devices from being locked together.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising locking said first and second lockable devices when the king pin is detected as being seated in said head and jaw assemblies.

24. (previously presented) The fifth wheel hitch assembly of claim 1, wherein said first locking device includes a first aperture and said second locking device includes a second aperture, said first and second apertures capable of being locked when locking said jaw body in a closed position.